

Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 ROME 03057 051616Z

72

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-20

USIA-15 DRC-01 /101 W

----- 121737

R 051540Z MAR 74

FM AMEMBASSY ROME

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3559

INFO AMEMBASSY MADRID

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE ROME 3057

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT, PFOR, SOCI, SP, VT

SUBJECT: ANOVEROS CASE

REF: ROME 2993; MADRID 1433

1. MARCH 5 VATICAN SEMI-OFFICIAL DAILY "L'OSSERVATORE ROMANO" GAVE
PROMINENT FRONT-PAGE COVERAGE TO FOLLOWING STATEMENT ON
ANOVEROS CASE:

QUOTE THE CASE OF THE BISHOP OF BILBAO

LAST NIGHT THE SPANISH GOVERNMENT ISSUED AN INFORMATION
BULLETIN REGARDING THE CASE OF THE BISHOP OF BILBAO, WHICH HAS
AMPLY OCCUPIED THE MEDIA IN RECENT DAYS.

THE HOLY SEE HAD PURPOSELY ABSTAINED FROM PUBLICLY TAKING
A POSITION IN THIS REGARD -- IN THE SPIRIT OF THAT HARMONY AND
UNION TO WHICH THE HOLY FATHER HAD URGENTLY EXHORTED IN HIS
RECENT SPEECH TO THE SPANISH BISHOPS -- THERE BEING IN COURSE
ATTEMPTS TO FIND A JUST AND SATISFACTORY CLARIFICATION.

FOR THIS PURPOSE THE HOLY SEE HAD BEEN IN CLOSE CONTACT IN
THESE LAST DAYS BOTH WITH THE PONTIFICAL REPRESENTATION IN MADRID
LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 ROME 03057 051616Z

AND THE SPANISH EPISCOPATE AND WITH THE AUTHORITIES OF THE STATE.

IT IS NOT INTENDED, AT LEAST FOR NOW, TO ENTER INTO THE MERITS OF THE INFORMATION FURNISHED BY THE ABOVE-MENTIONED BULLETIN REGARDING THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE FACTS AND, IN PARTICULAR, OF THE GRAVE EVALUATIONS CONTAINED THEREIN WITH REGARD TO A PRELATE OF WHOM ARE WELL KNOWN HIS HIGH PASTORAL QUALITIES AND IS RECOGNIZED HIS ATTACHMENT TO HIS COUNTRY BESIDES -- AS IS NATURAL -- TO HIS OWN DIOCESE. THE HOLY SEE WOULD LIKE INSTEAD TO EXPRESS THE WISH AND THE HOPE THAT IT IS STILL POSSIBLE, OWING TO THE EFFORTS OF GOOD WILL OF ALL THE INTERESTED PARTIES, TO REACH A CONVENIENT SOLUTION OF THE GRAVE CONTROVERSY IN THE RESPECT OF THE REASONS OF JUSTICE AND IN THE INTENT TO FAVOR GOOD RELATIONS BETWEEN THE STATE AND THE CHURCH, TO THE BENEFIT AND FOR THE TRANQUILITY NOT ONLY OF THE POPULATION OF THE DIOCESE OF BILBAO BUT OF THE ENTIRE NATION, AVOIDING DECISIONS AND POSITIONS WHICH COULD SHARPEN THE PRESENT SITUATION AND PREJUDICE THE DESIRABLE POSITIVE DEVELOPMENTS. END QUOTE.

2. NUNCIO DADAGLIO RETURNED TO MADRID NIGHT MARCH 4 AFTER DETAILED CONSULTATION WITH CARDINAL SECRETARY OF STATE VILLOT AND ARCHBISHOP CASAROLI. NO ANNOUNCEMENT WAS MADE OF PAPAL AUDIENCE FOR DADAGLIO, BUT SINCE AUDIENCES INVOLVING DELICATE QUESTIONS ARE NOT ALWAYS PUBLISHED THERE CONSIDERABLE SPECULATION HERE THAT NUNCIO DID INDEED SEE POPE. AT AIRPORT DADAGLIO LIMITED HIMSELF TO TELLING PRESS THAT VATICAN POSITION EXPRESSED IN STATEMENT IN "OSSERVATORE" AND WHEN ASKED IF HE THOUGHT PROBLEM MIGHT LEAD TO RUPTURE OF DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS REPLIED, "LET US PRAY THAT SUCH AN EVENT NEVER OCCURS."

3. SPANISH AMBASSADOR FERNANDEZ DE VALERRAMA REPORTEDLY PRESENTED TO VATICAN MARCH 2 HIS REQUEST THAT POPE TRANSFER ANOVEROS FROM BILBAO, PREFERABLY TO POSITION IN ROME.

4. COMMENT: PUBLICATION OF STRONG STATEMENT IN "OSSERVATORE" WOULD SEEM TO BE CLEAR INDICATION THAT HOLY SEE INTENDS TO STAND BEHIND BISHOP OF BILBAO. IT PROBABLY ALSO SIGNIFICANT THAT STATEMENT ISSUED AT END OF DADAGLIO'S CONSULTATION, AT TIME WHEN VATICAN MAY HAVE MADE UP ITS MIND HOW TO HANDLE MATTER.
VOLPE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: POLITICAL FREEDOM, CHURCH STATE RELATIONS, SELFDETERMINATION, RELIGIOUS LEADERS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 05 MAR 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: morefirh
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974ROME03057
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: n/a
From: ROME
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19740367/aaaackgm.tel
Line Count: 99
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: ROME 2993; MADRID 1433
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: morefirh
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 22 MAY 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <22 MAY 2002 by boyleja>; APPROVED <11 JUN 2002 by morefirh>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: ANOVEROS CASE
TAGS: PINT, PFOR, SOCI, SP, VT, (ANOVEROS, BISHOP)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005